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Security Council

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Resolution 1741 (2007)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 5626th meeting, on 30 January 2007

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions and statements pertaining to the situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea (hereinafter referred to as "the parties") and the requirements contained therein, including in particular resolutions 1320 (2000), 1430 (2002), 1466 (2003), 1640 (2005), 1681 (2006) and 1710 (2006),

Stressing its unwavering commitment to the peace process, and to the full and expeditious implementation of the Algiers Agreements, and the importance of prompt implementation of the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (S/2002/423) as a basis for peaceful and cooperative relations between the parties,

Reaffirming the integrity of the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ) as provided for in the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities of 18 June 2000 (S/2000/601) and recalling the objectives of its establishment and the commitment of the parties to respect the TSZ,

Commending the efforts made by the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) and its military and civilian personnel to accomplish its duties, despite the difficult circumstances,

Stressing further that the full demarcation of the border between the two parties is vital to lasting peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea as well as in the region, recalling that both parties have agreed to accept the delimitation and demarcation determinations of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) as final and binding, commending the efforts of the EEBC to resume demarcation, and expressing its regret that the EEBC, for reasons beyond its control as explained in the Annexes of the report of the Secretary-General of 22 January 2007 (S/2007/33), has so far been unable to complete demarcation of the boundary as planned,

Expressing its full support for the work of the EEBC and acknowledging the Statement of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) of 27 November 2006,

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Having considered the Special report of the Secretary-General of 15 December 2006 (S/2006/992) and the options on the future of UNMEE contained therein, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 22 January 2007 (S/2007/33),

Recalling paragraph 7 of resolution 1710 (2006),

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of UNMEE for a period of six months, until 31 July 2007;

2. *Approves* the reconfiguration of UNMEE's military component, from the current 2300 to 1700 military personnel, including 230 military observers, in accordance with option I, as described in paragraphs 24 and 25 of the Special report of the Secretary-General (S/2006/992), *decides* to maintain the current mandate and maximum authorized force levels, as stipulated in Resolution 1320 (2000) and further adjusted in Resolutions 1430 (2002) and 1681 (2006), and *stresses* the need to preserve sufficient military capacity for UNMEE to implement its mandate;

3. *Reiterates its demand* expressed in paragraph 5 of resolution 1640 (2005) that Ethiopia accept fully and without delay the final and binding decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission and take immediately concrete steps to enable, without preconditions, the Commission to demarcate the border completely and promptly;

4. *Demands* that Eritrea immediately withdraw its troops and equipment from the Temporary Security Zone;

5. *Reiterates its demand* expressed in paragraph 1 of resolution 1640 (2005) that Eritrea reverse, without further delay or preconditions, all restrictions on UNMEE's movement and operations, noting that these include the movement and operations of the acting SRSG, and provide UNMEE with the access, assistance, support and protection required for the performance of its duties;

6. *Reiterates its call* expressed in paragraph 2 of resolution 1640 (2005) that the parties show maximum restraint and refrain from any threat or use of force against each other;

7. *Regrets the lack* of progress on demarcation, *calls upon* both parties to cooperate fully with the EEBC, *stresses* that the parties have primary responsibility for the implementation of the Algiers Agreements, and *calls again upon* the parties to implement completely and without further delay or preconditions the decision of the EEBC and to take concrete steps to resume and complete the demarcation process;

8. *Demands* that the parties provide UNMEE with the necessary access, assistance, support and protection required for the performance of its duties, including its mandated task to assist the EEBC in the expeditious and orderly implementation of the Delimitation Decision, in accordance with Resolutions 1430 (2002) and 1466 (2003) and demands that any restrictions be lifted immediately;

9. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the international community to engage with Eritrea and Ethiopia to help them to normalize their relations, to promote stability between the parties, and to lay the foundation for sustainable peace in the region;

10. *Expresses* its willingness to reconsider any changes to UNMEE in light of subsequent progress toward demarcation, and its readiness to take further

decisions to ensure that UNMEE will be able to facilitate demarcation as progress becomes possible;

11. *Calls* on Member States to provide contributions to the Trust Fund, established pursuant to Resolution 1177 (1998) and referred to in Article 4 (17) of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed by the Governments of Ethiopia and Eritrea on 12 December 2000, in order to support the demarcation process;

12. *Expresses* its deep appreciation for the contribution and dedication of the troop-contributing countries to the work of UNMEE;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next progress report due by the end of April 2007, details of the progress made towards the implementation of this Resolution and the implementation of the EEBC decision;

14. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.